

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending May 9, 1993

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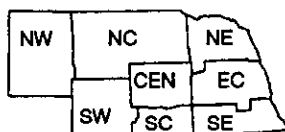
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Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



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WEATHER

Temperatures for the week averaged around three degrees above normal across the State. Precipitation fell the last half of the week with amounts varying from three-tenths of an inch in the west up to 2.20 inches in the central portion of the State.

GENERAL

Fieldwork activities progressed well last week as producers worked around wet spots in fields and spring showers, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Fieldwork activities included discing, shredding stalks, applying fertilizer, and planting. Aerating farm-stored grain continued where necessary with a few reports of producers marketing off-grade grain. Other activities included livestock care and routine chores.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated at 19% fair, 66% good, and 15% excellent. As of Sunday, 46% of the wheat had reached the jointing stage, about one week behind normal. As a comparison, last year at this time, 87% had jointed, while the five-year average was 70%. Wheat streak mosaic has been observed in several western counties with some counties harder hit than others.

CROPS (Cont.)

Oat planting progressed well last week with 92% sown to date. Last year at this time, producers had been finished for a week, while the five-year average was 99% complete. Some intended oat acres may not be planted to oats this spring due to planting delays.

Corn planting made good progress last week considering the soil conditions and local rainfall. Producers had 27% planted by the end of the week, compared with 73% last year and 62% for the five-year average. Harvest of last fall's unharvested corn also progressed well with many areas finished or nearly so. In some cases, planters were not far behind combines.

Sugar beet planting progressed well and was nearing completion in the major producing western counties. Potato planting also moved along well.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 7% fair, 70% good, and 23% excellent.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 99% of normal and compares with 80% of normal last year at this time. Although grass growth has been slow this spring, some cattle have been moved to pastures. Other producers continue to hold cattle in dry lots or on stalk fields until further grass growth is realized.

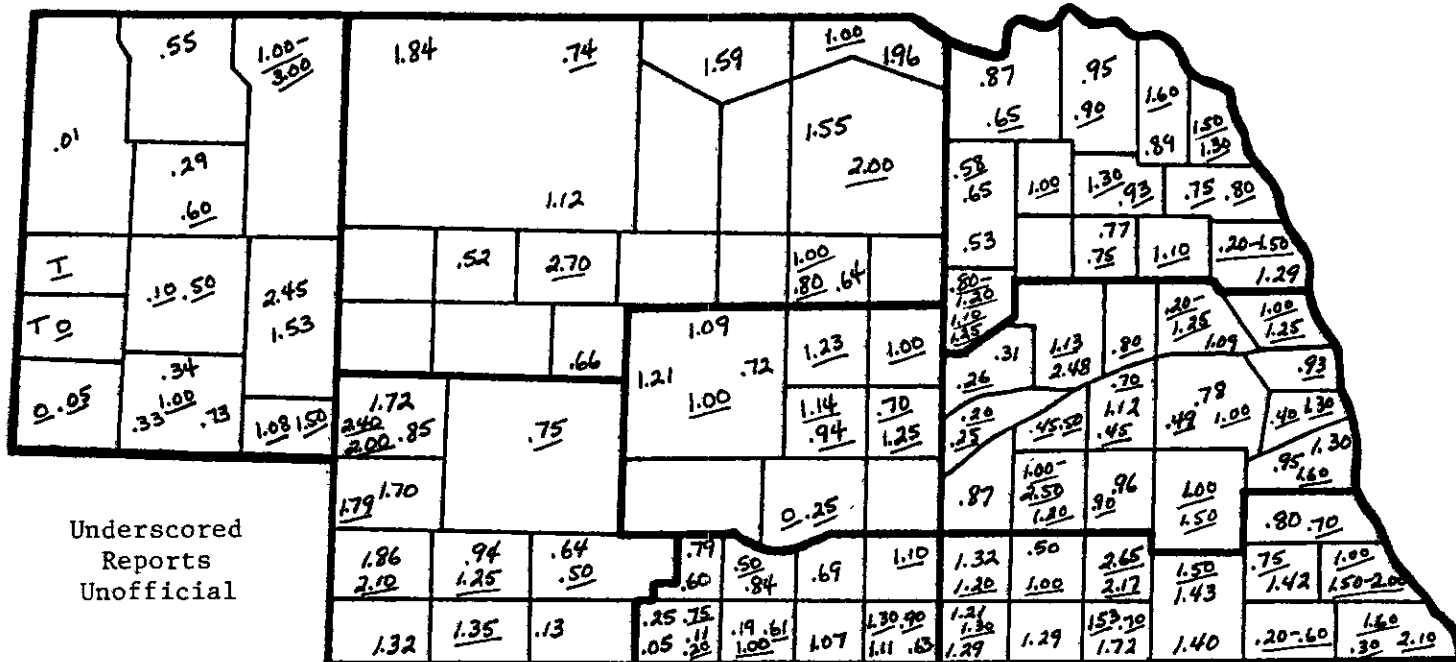
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 9, 1993	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% wheat jointed	40	8	28	21	33	44	68	58	46	20	87	70
% oats sown	100	89	98	78	86	63	99	74	92	64	100	99
% corn planted	51	27	18	25	30	21	47	17	27	9	73	62
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 7, 1993												
Days suitable	5.7	3.5	4.3	4.9	3.7	4.3	4.0	2.3	4.0	5.0	7.0	
Topsoil moisture - Short	20	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	3	0	74	
(Percent) - Adequate	73	60	40	92	38	37	92	11	52	79	26	
- Surplus	7	40	60	8	62	50	8	89	45	21	0	
Subsoil moisture - Short	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	
(Percent) - Adequate	100	87	55	100	67	75	100	56	77	74	73	
- Surplus	0	13	45	0	33	25	0	44	23	26	1	

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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1993



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 7, 1993

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week47	1.24	.83	1.01	1.10	1.15	.58	1.24
Total since April 1	2.08	4.19	4.50	3.37	4.53	2.84	2.45	3.99
Normal since April 1	2.43	2.88	3.30	3.16	3.69	2.47	2.88	3.65

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 9, 1993

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	80	35	58	---	.89	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	81	34	56	+3	.31	105	175	171
	Sidney	78	33	56	---	.01	106	172	180
NC	Valentine	80	40	59	+5	.62	107	192	163
NE	Norfolk	78	35	60	+3	1.16	---	---	---
	Sioux City	79	34	62	+4	1.10	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	105	188	208
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	101	172	195
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	114	201	213
CEN	Grand Island	81	35	59	+1	2.20	116	199	199
	Ord	81	29	60	---	1.14	111	190	212
EC	Lincoln	81	37	62	+3	.67	113	210	216
	Omaha	80	43	62	+3	1.52	105	199	192
	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	110	200	203
SW	York	---	---	---	---	---	116	200	218
	Imperial	85	42	59	---	.25	---	---	---
	North Platte	80	32	58	+3	.86	**125	**202	**206
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	133	213	226
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	137	n/a	n/a
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	127	n/a	n/a

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. * Automated weather station. ** North Platte Experiment Station. n/a = not available.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.